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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Rural District of South Molton

FOR THE YEAR 1966.

Rural District of South Molton

Telephone No.
South Molton 2117

Public Health Department,
8, East Street,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector


FOR THE YEAR 1966.

E. WILLIAMS

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

L.W. EVES,

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector



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REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
South Molton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District of South Molton, for the year 1966.

Your obedient Servant,

E. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of:—

Part-time Officers—

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

D. J. BYRON, M.A.P.H.I.

G. T. HILL, M.A.P.H.I.,

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	117,432
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	8,410
Extracts from Vital Statistics:—	
Births: Comparability Factor	1.19
Deaths	0.90

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—	
Number	129
Rate per 1,000 population	15.33
„ „ „ Adjusted	18.24
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	8.5%
Still Births:—	
Number	1
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	7.64
Total Live and Still Births	130
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	7
Infant Mortality Rates:—	
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births	54.26
Legit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legit. Live Births	50.8
Illegit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegit. Live Births	90.9
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 Total Live Births)	38.7
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Total Live Births)	31.07
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	38.4
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):—	
Number of Deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births) ...	Nil
Deaths	92
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	10.9
„ „ „ Adjusted	9.81

POPULATION FIGURES SINCE 1950

	Population	Live Births	Deaths
1950	9038	161	100
1951	9207	124	117
1952	9141	137	108
1953	9063	133	94
1954	9050	116	89
1955	9030	115	95
1956	8920	118	104

1957	8850	141	84
1958	8840	125	95
1959	8800	116	113
1960	8780	114	111
1961	8220	126	98
1962	8400	135	93
1963	8410	116	93
1964	8430	124	94
1965	8430	132	100
1966	8410	129	92

BIRTHS

During the year there were 129 live births in the Rural area as compared with 132 in 1965. There were 74 males and 55 female births.

Live Births

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	67	51	118
Illegitimate	...	...	...	7	4	11
Total ...						129
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population						15.33
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)						18.24

Still Births

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	0	1	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
Total ...						1
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births						7.69

DEATHS

During the year there were 92 deaths, of which 52 were males and 40 females.

Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	10.9
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)				9.81

The following table gives the Causes of Death:—

	M.	F.	Total
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	3	1	4
„ „ —Lung, Bronchus	5	0	5
„ „ —Breast	0	2	2
„ „ —Uterus	0	0	0
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	2	3	5
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	9	5	14
Coronary Disease, Angina	10	7	17
Hypertension with Heart Disease	0	0	0
Other Heart Disease	3	7	10
Other Circulatory Disease	1	4	5
Influenza	3	0	3
Pneumonia	3	1	4
Bronchitis	2	0	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	0	0	0
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	0	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	0	0	0
Congenital Malformations	4	0	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	0	0
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ...	4	6	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	0	1
All Other Accidents	1	3	4
Suicide	0	0	0
Homicide and Operation of War	0	0	0
Total ...	52	40	92

Deaths in age groups:—

Under 4 weeks ...	5	35 — 44 years ...	1
4 weeks—1 year ...	2	45 — 54 „ ...	2
1 — 4 years ...	1	55 — 64 „ ...	17
5 — 14 „ ...	0	65 — 74 „ ...	21
15 — 24 „ ...	0	75 + „ ...	43
25 — 34 „ ...	0		

Infant Mortality Rate

During the year 7 infants died under the age of 1 year, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 54.26

Maternal Mortality

No deaths were attributable to childbirth during the year.

Cancer Deaths

There were 16 deaths due to Cancer during the year as compared with 25 for the previous year. There were 5 deaths due to lung cancer (6 in 1965).

	M.	F.	Total
Stomach Cancer	3	1	4
Lung and Bronchus Cancer	5	0	5
Breast	0	2	2
Uterus	0	0	0
Other Cancers	2	3	5

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 36 infectious disease notifications were received: 33 of these were Measles, 1 Pneumonia, 1 Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 1 Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

No Food Poisoning was reported.

The following Table shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register on 1st January and 31st December, 1966.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1st January, 1966	9	16	25	7	6	13
31st December, 1966	10	16	26	7	7	14

Age Groups	Measles	Pneumonia	Tuberculosis	
			Pul.	Non-Pul.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1 +	2	—	—	—
2 +	—	—	—	—
3 +	3	—	—	—
4 +	1	—	—	—
5 — 9	22	—	—	—
10 — 14	5	—	—	—
15 — 24	—	—	1	—
25 — 44	—	—	—	—
45 — 64	—	1	—	1
65 +	—	—	—	—
Total ...	33	1	1	1

Pulmonary T.B. Male 15 (Romansleigh)
 Non-Pulmonary T.B Female 48 (Kings Nympton)

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year 36 dwellings and 17 business premises were connected to the mains.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (SECTION 47)

No cases were dealt with under this Act during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Tuberculosis

All Tuberculous patients until March 1963 were treated at the Hawley Hospital, Barnstaple. The decline in the number of T.B. patients has, as a result, led to the closure of the hospital, all patients are now being admitted to Hawkmoor Hospital.

Maternity Cases

There is a ward of 14 beds with a fully qualified staff at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, available for maternity cases of doubt and difficulty.

Three beds are also set aside for maternity cases in the South Molton and District Cottage Hospital.

The General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is at "Highfield," Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

Cases are sent either to Whipton Hospital, near Exeter, or to the Kingsley Hospital which is situated just outside the Borough of Bideford, and is well equipped in every way for the treatment of Infectious Diseases; there are 20 beds available in cubicles for Infectious cases.

Smallpox

All smallpox cases will, be sent to Liskeard Smallpox Hospital, Plymouth Ambulance Service will provide transport Tel No. Plymouth 64101.

General

The South Molton and District Cottage Hospital, situated in the Borough of South Molton, serves this area. There are 9 beds for general and maternity cases. The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, also serves the area and provides Specialists' Services.

In South Molton there are also chronic sick patients at Beech House, but no further admissions are being made.

Clinic and Treatment Centres

CHEST CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Below is a table giving the days and times of attendance.

Tuesday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		
Thursday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	A.P. Refills
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		
Friday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		

V.D. CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Times and days are as below for the sessions:—

FEMALES—Monday 4.00 p.m. Thursday 4.30 p.m.

MALES— Monday 5.15 p.m. Thursday 5.45 p.m.

Professional Nursing in the Homes

There are 2 District Nurse Midwives in the area.

Laboratory Facilities

The main Laboratory is situated at Church Lane, Heavitree Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of water and milk are also carried out. The service is extremely valuable and is widely used by the medical practitioners.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75, Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon area. There is a Blood Bank at this Laboratory.

Infant Welfare Centre

Held Thursday afternoons between 2.00 and 4.30 p.m. at 99, East Street, South Molton.

Ante Natal Clinic

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 99, East Street.

Ambulance Services

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. Under the scheme, an ambulance station has been established at South Molton. The districts served are South Molton Borough and South Molton Rural District. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available on application to the Hospital, by the doctor concerned, and the ambulance service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when an ambulance is not necessary.

Junior Training Centre—Abbeyfield, Barnstaple.

This centre provides training facilities for mentally handicapped children between the ages of 5 and 16. Hostel accommodation is also provided for children who may live some distance away from the centre.

Adult training Centre.

A new adult training centre for the North Devon area, was opened in 1966 for the training of handicapped adults. This centre also has hostel accommodation.

I wish to thank the Clerk and the Public Health Inspector for the help they have given me during the year.

E. WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR TO THE SOUTH MOLTON RURAL AREA

For the Year ended 31st December, 1966

8, EAST STREET,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report relating to work carried out during 1966.

During the year 2,633 visits and inspections were made including:—

PUBLIC HEALTH—

Byelaws & Building Regulations	367
Camping Sites	13
Disinfections and Disinfestations ...	4
Drains inspected and tested	159
General	23
Infectious Disease	3
Nuisances	35
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	22
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	223
Water Supplies	78
Water Samples	56
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS	107
FOOD AND DRUGS—General	23
Meat and Food Inspection	199
FACTORIES—With Power	3
Without Power	4
HOUSING—Slum Clearance, Housing Acts, Rent Act	17
Council Houses in Course of Erection	
Housing Sites and Council House	
Supervision, etc.	603
Improvement Grants	74
PETROLEUM REGULATIONS	28
INTERVIEWS—Owners, Builders, etc.	377
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	104
WASTE FOODS	9
SHOPS ACT	12
MISCELLANEOUS	77
STREET LIGHTING... ..	13
	<hr/>
	2,633
	<hr/>

WATER

	No. of Houses supplied from Public Mains	Estimated Population so served	No. of Houses supplied by Standpipe on Public Mains	Estimated Population so served
Anstey East ...	26	75	—	—
Anstey West ...	21	60	—	—
Bishopsnympton ...	154	363	1	2
Buckland East ...	10	21	—	—
Buckland West ...	56	166	—	—
Burrington ...	62	200	—	—
Charles (Brayford)	39	119	—	—
Chittlehamholt ...	52	161	—	—
Chittlehampton ...	174	653	—	—
Cheldon ...	1	4	—	—
Chulmleigh ...	324	882	2	8
Creacombe ...	1	3	—	—
Filleigh ...	52	175	—	—
Georgenympton ...	35	116	—	—
Kingsnympton ...	79	219	1	3
Knowstone ...	28	84	—	—
Mariansleigh ...	56	135	—	—
Meshaw ...	31	79	—	—
Molland ...	3	3	—	—
North Molton ...	229	696	1	3
Queensnympton ...	4	14	—	—
Rackenford ...	58	170	—	—
Romansleigh ...	22	73	—	—
Rose Ash ...	47	142	—	—
Satterleigh and Warkleigh ...	18	51	—	—
Witheridge ...	236	681	4	13
Worlington East	67	240	—	—

56 Samples of Private Supplies were taken with the results as shown:—

	Chemical	Bacteriological
Satisfactory ...	—	29
Unsatisfactory ...	—	27

Bacteriological Samples of Public Supplies are now discontinued.

Where the Private Water Supplies were found to be unsatisfactory, informal action was taken to have the matters remedied or an alternative source found, in many cases, in conjunction with the Drainage and Water Supplies Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Meshaw and Molland sewerage schemes were prepared and awaiting Ministry approval.

The Consultants were proceeding with schemes for Romansleigh, Burrington, Brayford and Alswear. They were also being pressed to complete their investigation into the need for modernisation and enlargement of the Witheridge Disposal Works.

An additional attendant was taken on during the year, this enabling improvements in the general standard to be obtained.

HOUSING

During the year 29 houses were improved under the Standard Grant Scheme and 6 under the Discretionary Grant Scheme. No Council Houses were erected during the year.

13 private houses, were erected during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

(a) The number of food premises in this area, by type of business, is:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	1
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	2
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	0
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	0
Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	...	...	39
Guest Houses	...	...	...	...	4
Public Houses, Hotels	...	...	...	...	25
Dairies	...	...	...	...	4

(b) Eight premises are registered for the manufacture or preparation of preserved food.

Thirty-two premises are registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream.

Four premises are registered as dairies.

(c) All condemned food is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip under supervision.

(d) FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1960

Twntythree visits of inspection were made to food premises. Improvements and compliance with the regulations were secured.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The two licensed slaughterhouses continued in regular use during the year, all of them being satisfactorily maintained. All meat killed was inspected and it was necessary to condemn 2 cwt. 2 qrs 1 lbs. of carcase meat and 8 cwt. 1 lbs. of offal.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

DAIRIES

The dairies within the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1961

No action was necessary under the above-mentioned Acts during the year.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	307	3	776	799	Nil
Number Inspected	307	3	776	799	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	1	3	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned }	105	Nil	172	95	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci }	34.2%	Nil	22.2%	11.8%	Nil
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned }	Nil	Nil	Nil	9	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis }	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.1%	Nil
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned }	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration }	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

